Message Text

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R 281115Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7648

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 0340

FROM AMBASSADOR SPIRO FOR SEC COMMERCE-DESIGNATE RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP, CM

SUBJECT: US COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE, YAOUNDE

- 1. BASED ON YOUR OFFICIAL-INFORMAL RESPONSE OF DEC 12, 1975 TO ME, SUGGEST YOU CABLE GREETINGS TO CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:
- 2. QUOTE. SOON AFTER PRESIDENT FORD SUBMITTED MY
 NOMINATION AS SECRETARY OF COMMERCE TO THE SENATE, AMBASSADOR
 SPIRO INVITED ME TO ATTEND YOUR CONFERENCE. I WROTE HIM AT THE
 TIME THAT I FOUND HIS ENTHUSIASM WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO AN
 ATTACK OF PREMATURE LOCALITIS INFECTIOUS AND THAT I COULDN'T
 THINK OF A MORE APPROPRIATE WAY TO LAUNCH MY NEW COMMERCE
 CAREER. HOWEVER, AS I WILL BE SWORN IN ON THE 1ST OF FEBRUARY
 I JUST WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET AWAY DURING THIS WEEK. BUT I
 SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEND MY GREETINGS
 TO MY OLD COLLEAGUES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND MY NEW
 COLLEAGUES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WHO WILL BE
 COLLABORATING IN YAOUNDE DURING THE AFRICA COMMERCIAL OFFICER'S
 CONFERENCE.

IN A WORLD OF RAPIDLY CHANGING ECONOMIC ORDER, EXPORTS HAVE NEVER BEEN OF GREATER CONSEQUENCE TO AMERICA, NOR YOUR EFFORTS MORE VITAL. EVEN THOUGH WE ARE RUNNING AN IMPRESSIVE TRADE SURPLUS TODAY, IT IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE THAT NEXT YEAR, ON A COST-INSURANCE-FREIGHT ACCOUNTING, WE MAY AGAIN SUFFER A DEFICIT. THEREFORE, IN THE MONTHS AHEAD I SHALL STRIVE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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INSURE THAT AMERICA VIGOROUSLY PERSUES A POLICY OF EXPORT

PROMOTION AND I KNOW THAT I SHALL HAVE THE SUPPORT OF EACH OF YOU IN THE FIELD. BETWEEN YOUR EFFORTS ABROAD AND OUR EFFORTS AT HOME, WE MAINTAIN FOR AMERICA A FAVORABLE BALANCE OF TRADE. MY THANKS TO EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION, SERVICE, AND PERSERVERANCE. SIGNED ELLIOT RICHARDSON, ECRETARY OF COMMERCE. UNQUOTE

3. CONFERENCE BEGINS WEDNESDAY, FEB 4. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING RESPONSE BY MONDAY, FEB 2 SO THAT I MAY INCORPORATE INTO MY OPENING REMARKS.
SPIRO

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NNN

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